



# Bulletin of the California Horticultural Society

*Cultivating Friendship, gardens and fun for over 75 years*

**Next Monthly General Meeting is June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 at 7:15 pm**

**June 2010**

**Volume 77, Issue 6**

Monthly meetings are held at the San Francisco County Fair Building and are co-sponsored by the SF Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park. Parking is available behind the SF Co. Fair Building on Lincoln Way.

4:00 PM Botanical gardens walk with the speaker.  
Meet at the entrance

5:30 PM NO HOST Dinner will be at Park Chow Restaurant, 1240 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. San Francisco.

7:15 PM Announcements, Plant Forum, and Program Meeting will be held at the SF Botanical Garden in the SF County Fair Building at 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Lincoln Way; San Francisco.

\*\*\*Members free

\*\*\*Non-members – A donation of \$5 is requested.

**June Program:**

**June 21, 2010**

**A Baja California Natural History: the Land of the Boojum and the Cardon**

Having traveled to the northern half of the Baja California peninsula, Ernesto Sandoval, Director of the U.C. Davis Botanical Conservatory hopes to convince us to travel to this particular region of the Sonoran Desert. He has visited the peninsula during three particularly moist springs, including the 1998 El Niño, and at least eight winters. Learn about some botanically defining characteristics of the peninsula's plant life as well as the endemic and near endemic plants that are found throughout Baja. Ernesto has amassed a visually stunning collection of images from this remarkable landscape, known to some as one of the most lush deserts in the world.



As if taking you to Baja weren't enough, Ernesto will be bringing plants to sell from specimens propagated among the UCDBC's wide array of plants, including succulents such as *Aloe ferox*, *marlothii*, *suprafoliata* and others, carnivorous plants such as *Nepenthes* and *Sarracenia* including the beautiful and rare *S. 'Adrian Slack'*, 'Schnell's Ghost', *S. flava* var. *ornata* as well as multiple other rare clones of this eastern U.S. insectivorous genus, and many other difficult-to-find plants from around the world.

**July meeting**

**July 19, 2010**

**"With Mallows Aforethought: Wonders of the *Malvaceae*"**

Dr. Steven Hill is a Plant Taxonomist and Botanist with the Illinois Natural History Survey at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. As one of the most prominent *Malvaceae* experts in the world, having studied mallows for the past 35 years, he is the principal author on California mallows for the upcoming revision of the Jepson Manual. He will open your eyes to the great diversity and horticultural possibilities of mallows.

Friday July 16 "Make Room For Succulents"

Seminar featuring five speakers, including nurseryfolk and designers focused on intertwining succulents with their architecture. Features a tour of a private garden. Walnut Creek Civic Arts Education Center. Presented by the Garden Conservancy and the Ruth Bancroft Garden, co-sponsored by Pacific Horticulture. [www.gardenconservancy.org](http://www.gardenconservancy.org) (415) 441-4300

Monday June 21 (opening) to celebrate the Summer Solstice 5 - 9 PM U.C. Berkeley Botanical Garden "Planting Comics", an installation of original comics mounted on tiles planted throughout the collection. Artist Ozge Samanci shares impressions and inspiration from the garden in Strawberry Canyon. Exhibit runs through July 30. [botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu](http://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu) (510) 643-5045

Saturday June 26 11 AM  
Roses of the Storer Garden, U.C. Davis Arboretum, Guided tour featuring best roses for Central Valley gardens and growing them without pesticides. Meet at the Gazebo. [arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu) (530) 752-4880

#### **California Rare Fruit Growers**

Saturday June 19 10 AM - 2 PM  
A Celebration of Home Grown Fruit: members of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter led by Nancy Garrison showcase fruits grown to harvest all twelve months of the year. Yamagami's Nursery, Cupertino. [www.crfg.org](http://www.crfg.org) (408) 252-3347

#### **Ruth Bancroft Garden**

Friday June 18 through Sunday July 18  
"Sculpture In The Garden"  
Saturday and Sunday June 19 & 20 Father's Day Weekend Marketplace 10 AM - 4 PM  
Sunday July 10 Plant sale featuring large and small cacti, New and Old World succulents. Free admission to the garden. [www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/](http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/)

#### **Regional Parks Botanical Garden**

Saturday June 19 10 AM - 12 noon  
Botanical Drawing for Kids \$10 children of members/ \$15 non-members.  
Medical Illustrator Gretchen McCondochie guides children 8-12 on the first steps to seeing plant shapes, colors and textures for creating botanical illustrations. Drawing materials and sketchpads provided. [www.nativeplants.org/events](http://www.nativeplants.org/events) (510) 544-3169

Friday July 23 to Monday July 26

Wildflowers of the High Eastern Sierra. RPBG presents this rare opportunity for a four-day weekend of wildflower trekking high above Owens Valley. Join Joe Dahl and Botanist Glenn Keator in touring the spectacular geology and dizzying heights above the tree line, and sub-Alpine lakes and forests above Bishop, CA. Register at [nativeplants.org/easternsierra2010.pdf](http://nativeplants.org/easternsierra2010.pdf) or [gkeator@aol.com](mailto:gkeator@aol.com)

#### **S.F. Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum**

Saturday June 19 9:30 AM - 2 PM  
Grey Water Workshop. On-site water management with ecological engineers from Hyphae Design Lab, Oakland.

Saturday June 26 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Growing a Habitat Garden. Patrice Hanlon from Heather Farm, and Susan Handjian share their expertise for planting to attract and sustain birds, butterflies, bees and beneficial insects.

Sunday July 4 8 AM  
Bird Walk. Celebrate your patriotism with a parade of our feathered friends on this first-Sunday-of-the-month walk. BYOB - Bring Your Own Binoculars. Meet at 9th Ave. Gate.

Saturday July 10 10 AM - 12:30 PM  
Botanical Latin. Language expert Al Luongo gets us started or refreshed in the universal language of plant science: binomial genus and species names. Class covers pronunciation rules, Greek and Latin roots, et cetera, et cetera. [www.sfbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.sfbotanicalgarden.org) (415) 661-1316

***Achillea*, or yarrow  
Family: Asteraceae**

Despite their wonderful performance in our gardens, we underappreciate some plants. In fact, some plants are so trouble-free and forgiving that we take them for granted when we should be singing their praises wherever we go. *Achillea* is one of these plants. This delicate-appearing perennial, with its ferny leaves and umbels of flowers, is one tough cookie. Give it full sun with reasonable drainage and it will reward you with flowers that are butterfly magnets year after year. Most of the plants now sold are cultivars rather than true species, and they come in various heights and colors ranging from white to yellow to orange to pinkish red. As their blooming winds down in mid-summer, shear them and they will pop out more flowers in the autumn. *Achillea* combines well with other drought-resistant sun lovers and can be divided every few years to share with your friends. The genus is also a good choice for native meadow gardens.



In addition to its beauty in the garden, *Achillea* is reputed to have a myriad of health benefits as a folk remedy for just about everything. It was named after Achilles, whose soldiers used it to treat their wounds. Other names for the plant such as allheal, bloodwort, woundwort, stanch weed and nosebleed plant refer to its healing qualities. The most difficult thing about growing this plant is deciding which color you prefer! Once you decide, you and the butterflies will be glad that you planted an *Achillea* in your garden.

Photos by Ted Kipping

**Monthly Plant Drawing**

The plant drawing is an ongoing program for the Society's benefit. Nurseries and individual members donate plants each month, many of which are rare in the trade.

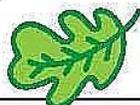
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The California Horticultural Society  
 San Francisco County Fair Building  
 9TH Avenue & Lincoln Way  
 San Francisco, CA 94122  
[www.calhortsociety.org](http://www.calhortsociety.org)



To join, or for a full range of membership levels, please visit our web site at [www.calhortsociety.org](http://www.calhortsociety.org), or contact Kristin Yanker-Hansen at 925-831-9499



Deadline for publication is the third Monday of each month for the following month's Bulletin, with the exception of December. Events during the first ten days of the month should be submitted two months ahead

Bulletin Editor  
[editor@calhortsociety.org](mailto:editor@calhortsociety.org)

Calendar Editor  
[calendar@calhortsociety.org](mailto:calendar@calhortsociety.org)

### Executive Council

2008 - 2010 (second term)  
 Jim Budke & Ted Kipping

2009 - 2011 (first term)  
 Demi Bowles Lathrop

2010 - 2010 (first term)  
 Michael Craib, Betsy Flack, Don MacGregor, Caren Magreblian, Dave Mrus

2010 - 2010 (second term)  
 Steve Morse, Andy Stone, Dave Tivol

### Council

President	open
Vice President	open
Past President	Ellen Frank
Recording Secretary	Jim Budke
Corresponding Secretary	open
Treasurer	Jan Hamby
Parliamentarian	Jan Hamby
Membership	Charlotte Maso

#### CalHort Needs Volunteers

We are moving forward to essentially an all volunteer Society where all of the tasks that make the Society run smoothly will be performed by members. However, it has also become obvious that the same few members are doing most of these jobs (sometimes multiple jobs) and have been doing them for many years. We have been without a President and Vice President for all of this year. Our Treasurer has been on the job for 14 years. Some of the assignments can be shared among members if we have enough volunteers.

Our Society has maintained its quality programs because of the dedication of the volunteer officers, chairs and members. The future of the Society depends upon its member volunteers! The Board asks that you consider volunteering for these positions to keep CalHort the organization we all want it to be. Contact any Board member for further information, either by email, phone or at next Monday's meeting, and especially Ted Kipping, the Nominating Committee Chair. We need you! The Membership Roster provides Board Member telephone numbers and email addresses.